

Message Text

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12

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INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS MADRID 2797

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJECT: RETURN OF THE INTELLECTUAL EXILES

1. SALVADOR DE MADARIAGA, INTERNATIONALLY-FAMED SCHOLAR AND FORMER AMBASSADOR OF THE SPANISH REPUBLIC, RETURNED TO SPAIN THIS WEEK FOLLOWING FORTY YEARS OF EXILE. THIS COMING WEEK HE IS SCHEDULED TO GIVE HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS TO THE ROYAL SPANISH ACADEMY, TO WHICH HE WAS ELECTED IN EXILE. 8 APRIL HE MADE HIS FIRST PUBLIC REMARKS SINCE HIS RETURN.

2. THE NINETY-YEAR OLD DE MADARIAGA, IN THE PRESS

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CONFERENCE IN ZARAGOZA, REPLIED THAT LIBERALISM,

"THE ONLY CIVILIZED POLITICAL PRACTICE WHICH EXISTS,"
IS NO LONGER IN STYLE. "EVERYONE TALKS OF
LIBERALIZATION BUT NO ONE WANTS LIBERALISM." HE SAID
THAT "THE COMMUNIST PARTY HAD NO RIGHT TO POLITICAL
LIBERTY BECAUSE THERE IS NO COMMUNIST PARTY WHICH
PERMITS LIBERTY."

3. HE SAID HE AND HIS WIFE HAD COME TO SPAIN TO OBSERVE
THE SIGNS OF CHANGE AND TO LOOK FOR A PLACE TO LIVE
WHICH WOULD BE CONGENIAL TO THEIR HEALTH. WHETHER OR
NOT THEY DECIDE TO STAY IN SPAIN WOULD DEPEND ON THE
OUTCOME OF BOTH. ONE THING THAT TROUBLED HIM AT PRESENT
WAS THE CURIOUS "PRO-COMMUNIST TONE" OF THE SPANISH
PRESS. ANOTHER IS THE INCLUSION IN THE PRESENT
GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS COMMITTED TO AN EVOLUTION FROM
AUTHORITARIANISM TO CONSTITUTIONALISM, OF SO MANY
PERSONS WHO ARE FUNDAMENTALLY OPPOSED TO SUCH AN
EVOLUTION.

4. YESTERDAY, 8 APRIL, IT WAS ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT
EIGHTY-THREE YEAR OLD CLAUDIO SANCHEZ ALBORNOZ, FOUNDER
OF SPANISH MEDIEVAL STUDIES AND SOMETIME PRESIDENT
OF THE SPANISH REPUBLIC IN EXILE, WOULD BE RETURNING
TO SPAIN 22 APRIL. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE IN BUENOS
AIRES, SANCHEZ ALBORNOZ SAID THAT HE HAD NEVER LEFT
SPAIN IN REALITY AND THAT NOW HE WISHED TO SEE
THE SKIES OF SPAIN ONCE MORE BEFORE DYING. HE
WAS NOT RETURNING FOR ANY POLITICAL REASON. HE WISHED
ONLY PEACE.

5. THE RETURN OF SALVADOR DE MADARIAGA AND SANCHEZ
ALBORNOZ, LONG OVERDUE IN THE MINDS OF MOST SPANIARDS
WHO THINK ABOUT THESE MATTERS, IS ANOTHER SIGN OF
THE CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE FRANCO'S DEATH.
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